

REMARKS

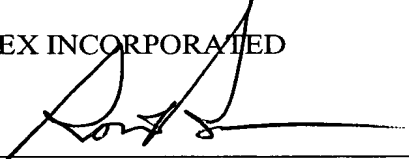
Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 1-6, 9, 12, 13, 15-20, 23 and 26 stand rejected. Claims 7, 8, 16, 21 and 22 have been cancelled and claims 1, 9, 10, 11-20 and 23-24 have been amended. The remaining claims have been objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. As such, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter.

In response to the Examiner's office action, Applicants have rewritten the independent claims to reflect the elements of the required dependent claims. That is, Applicants have placed the elements of the "objected to" claims into the body of their respective independent claims as needed and cancelled those claims thusly incorporated. In light of the above, Applicant's respectfully submit that the case is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MOLEX INCORPORATED

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By: 
Romi N. Bose
Registration No.: 43,322
Attorney of Record

Mailing Address:
Romi N. Bose
MOLEX INCORPORATED
2222 Wellington Court
Lisle, Illinois 60532
Tel.: (630) 527-4419
Fax: (630) 416-4962